

Texas Department of Agriculture
Texas Capital Fund
Real Estate Development Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the purpose of the Real Estate Development Program?

A: The Real Estate Development program funds the acquisition or renovation of an existing building, new construction or land acquisition, primarily in Texas' rural communities and counties in support of projects that create new jobs for low-to-moderate income persons.

Q: When do you accept applications for the Real Estate Development Program?

A: Starting in 2010, applications are accepted at any time and awarded monthly. A Webinar overview of the 2010 TCF program changes is available online through the Texas Capital Fund program link at www.TexasAgriculture.gov

Q: Can my city/county apply for more than one grant at a time?

A: Yes and you may also request both infrastructure and real estate funds in one application for the benefiting company.

Q: Will there be workshops to assist the cities with administration of the awarded contract?

A: Yes, TDA will offer a workshop each year on grant administration for the cities receiving awards.

Q: How long does reimbursement take?

A: If the contract is in compliance the average time for draw processing is approximately three weeks.

Q: Do these funds have to be repaid?

A: Yes, the business must make payment to the applicant. The amount of the payment is computed by dividing 240 into the amount of the award less the administration. No interest is charged on the loan amount.

Q: What is the maximum amount of funds a city or county may receive?

A: The standard maximum award is \$750,000 with two jumbo awards of \$1,000,000 and one jumbo award up to \$1,500,000 offered each program year. The minimum award is \$50,000.

Q: What can the money be used for?

A: Purchase and/or renovation of an existing building, new building construction or land acquisition. It may also be used for private infrastructure.

Q: Who is eligible?

A: The program is only available to non-entitlement city or county governments. Non-entitlement cities/counties do not receive direct funding from HUD and typically include cities with a population of less than 50,000 and counties of less than 200,000. There are over 1,200 eligible cities and counties in the state. Awarded cities and counties receive funds to make public infrastructure and/or real estate improvements to support a specific business that is expanding or beginning operations in the applicant's jurisdiction

Q: Are funds available to pay someone to do the administration of the contract?

A: Yes, \$25,000 to \$60,000 of grant funds may be used for administration purposes. The amount is dependant upon the amount of the award. These funds may be used to pay a city employee for time spent administering the contract, or it may be used to hire an outside administrator.

Q: How long does the community have to complete the project and hire the employees?

A: The contract period is three years from the execution date of the contract.

Q: How long after the application is submitted will the city/county receive a contract?

A: The highest scoring applications will be processed for award. The average time from receipt of applications to a contract being sent to the city for signature is approximately 90 days.

For more information, contact:

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